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ZEWDU, MELESS NMN				
ART UNIT			PAPER NUMBER	
2683			8	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/035,339

Applicant(s)

USKELA, SAMI

Examiner

Meless N Zewdu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-13 and 15-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 1/4/02 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is the first on the merit of the instant application.
2. Claims 1-39 are pending in this action.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the inclusion of the text/image, "(Figure 3)". Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 15 recites the limitation "the call" in line 3 of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 28 recites the limitation "the un-registration and the address" in lines 1-4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 37 recites the limitation "the changes" in line 2 of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 22-26 and 32-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chavez (US 6,151,503).

As per claim 22: a network node in a communication system wherein a service associated with a call terminating at a subscriber is triggered in the network node of the communication system to which calls terminating at the subscriber are routed reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 14-35), the network node comprising at least one interface for the subscriber, by which interface at least one service associated with the call terminating at the subscriber is triggered when the subscriber is not registered in the network reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 20-42). For a wireless subscriber, to be off the wireless network is same as being unregistered or being unregistered.

As per claim 23: the network node wherein the network node is configured to receive subscriber data of the subscriber when the subscriber performs the un-registration in the network reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 20-42).

As per claim 24: the network node further comprising an execution environment corresponding to the execution environment of user equipment in the communication system, and at least some of the subscriber data relate to at least one service content in the user equipment reads on '503 (see col. 14-42).

As per claim 25: the network node, wherein the network node is configured to request subscriber data of the subscriber in response to the routing of the call terminating at the subscriber to the network node reads on '503 (see col. 3, lines 41-60).

As per claim 26: the network wherein the network node is configured to store at least subscriber data relating to the terminating call in a first database used by the network

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node reads on '503 (see col. 1, line 61-col. 2, line 27). Since there is not a second database mentioned, a first database is interpreted just as a single database.

As per claim 32: a user equipment in a communication system, the user equipment comprising at least one service content for providing a service associated with a call terminating at a subscriber reads on '503 (see abstract; col. 1, line 62-col. 2, line 24), and being configured to transmit information associated with the service content to the communication system in order to provide the service when the user equipment is not registered in the network reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-42).

As per claim 33: the user equipment wherein the said information comprises the service content reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9- 42).

As per claim 34: the user equipment wherein said information comprises a pointer which points to the service content reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-30).

As per claim 35: the user equipment wherein said information further comprises at least one value of a parameter associated with the service content reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-30). The information from the subscriber to cause the network to update its database to indicate that the subscriber is off the wireless network is a parameter associated with service content.

As per claim 36: the user equipment is configured to transmit said information when it registers in the communication system reads on '503 (see col. 1, line 62-col. 2, line 30).

As per claim 37: the user equipment wherein the user equipment is configured to transmit said information in response to the changes in the service content reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-30). Going off the wireless network is a change in service.

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As per claim 38: the user equipment wherein the user equipment is configured to transmit said information when it performs the un-registration in the communication system reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-30). When the wireless subscriber goes off the wireless network, it effectively un registers itself from the wireless network.

As per claim 39: the user equipment wherein the user equipment is configured to transmit said information in response to a request received from the system reads on '503 (see col. 4, lines 57-64).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Chavez as applied to claims 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Nimmagadda (US 5,854,836).

As per claim 27: but, the above cited references do not teach about a network node that is configured to check whether subscriber data of the subscriber are stored in the first database and to request only those subscriber data that the network node needs for triggering a service associated with the terminating call and that are not stored in the database, as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Nimmagadda teaches about a number portability system wherein if a user's number is portable (checked), then it is compared to a plurality of ported numbers stored in a local

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database (see abstract; col. 2, line 44-col. 3, line 18). Although the instant application is directed to a wireless system and Nimmagadda's reference is directed to a wired network, claim 27 is directed to the database technique. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above references with Nimmagadda's database usage technique for the advantage of providing service as quickly as possible (see col. 4, lines 59-60).

Claims 1, 5-11, 15-21 and 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art (APA) in view of Chavez (US 6,151,503).

As per claim 1: a method for providing a service in connection with a call terminating at a subscriber in a network, the method comprising at least the steps of:

maintaining in the network at least one first function which triggers a least one first service associated with the terminating call for the subscriber when the subscriber is not registered in the network reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). A first function without a second function is just a single function.

routing the call terminating at the subscriber to the first function in the network reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). A first function without a second function is just a single function. But, the APA does not explicitly teach about routing, a call to a subscriber, to a first function when the subscriber is not registered in the network, thereby providing a service to a subscriber not registered in a network, as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Chavez teaches about a subscriber activated wireless telephone call rerouting system that enables the subscriber to reroute

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incoming calls to an alternate destination which is off network (see entire document, particularly, abstract; col. 2, lines 9-50). According to Chavez the call rerouting system is a customized routing table residing in a network and can remotely be activated/deactivated by the subscriber. The table includes a means for rerouting an incoming call to non-wireless network when the subscriber is off the cellular network. The feature, "off the wireless", network indicates a time of duration when the wireless subscriber is not able to request/receive service in the wireless network due to, for example, service an availability or being away from the home network (see col. 1, lines 10-19). Being away or being unable to get service is functionally same as being deregistered or unregistered. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the APA with the teaching of Chavez for the advantage of rerouting an incoming call to a wireless subscriber terminal to an alternate destination off of the wireless network, when the wireless subscriber moves to an area that doesn't have wireless service, as taught by Chavez.

As per claim 5: the method wherein the first function triggers the service when triggering conditions are fulfilled reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003).

As per claim 6: the method wherein the service is triggered in an execution environment which is internal environment of the fist function reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). As long as service triggering is provided, putting it in an internal or external environment is a choice of design because criticality is not shown as to why it should be internal.

As per claim 7: the method wherein the service is triggered in an execution environment which is an external environment of the first function reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). As long as service triggering is provided, putting it in an internal or external environment is a choice of design because criticality is not shown as to why it should be external.

As per claim 8: the method further comprising the steps of:

maintaining in the first function an execution environment corresponding to user equipment in order to permit at least one service content reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003).

Loading at least one service content or the address of the service content associated with the call terminating at the subscriber from the equipment to the first function reads on '503 (see abstract; col. 2, lines 9-42). When the references are combined as shown above, at least one service content or the address of the service content associated with the call terminating at the subscriber can be loaded from the equipment to the first function.

As per claim 9: the method wherein the loading is performed during the unregistration of the subscriber reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-42).

As per claim 10: the method wherein the first function is a call state control function reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003).

As per claim 11: the method wherein the first function is a session initiation protocol call processing server reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003).

As per claim 15: a communication system comprising:

at least first one function for triggering a service associated with the call terminating at a subscriber of the communication system reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). First function doesn't carry patentable weight since there is no mention of a second function and is interpreted as a single function.

at least one first network node for giving a routing address of a subscriber for a call terminating at the subscriber reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). The system described in APA inherently includes at least one network node. But, the APA does not explicitly teach about a first network being configured to give the address of the first function as the routing address and at least one function for triggering a service when the subscriber is not registered in the communication system, as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Chavez teaches about a subscriber activated wireless telephone call rerouting system that enables the subscriber to reroute incoming calls to an alternate destination which is off network (see entire document, particularly, abstract; col. 2, lines 9-50), wherein the routing address is provided by a network node (see col. 3, line 41-col. 4, line 3; col. 4, line 41-col. 5, line 38). According to Chavez the call rerouting system is a customized routing table residing in a network and can remotely be activated/deactivated by the subscriber. The table includes a means for rerouting an incoming call to non-wireless network when the subscriber is off the cellular network. The feature, "off the wireless", network indicates a time of duration when the wireless subscriber is not able to request/receive service in the wireless network due to, for example, service an availability or being away from the home network (see col. 1, lines 10-19). In other words, the service in Chavez includes routing

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an incoming call to a terminating subscriber when the subscriber is off the wireless network or unregistered in the wireless network as indicated by the expressions being away or being unable to get service which is functionally same as being deregistered or unregistered. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the APA with the teaching of Chavez for the advantage of rerouting an incoming call to a wireless subscriber terminal to an alternate destination off of the wireless network, when the wireless subscriber moves to an area that doesn't have wireless service, as taught by Chavez.

As per claim 16: the communication system wherein the first network node transmits at least subscriber data associated with the terminating call to the first network node in response to a subscriber data request of the first network reads on '503 (see col. 3, line 54-col. 4, line 3).

As per claim 17: the communication system wherein the first function requests subscriber data from the first network node in response to the reception of the call terminating at the subscriber reads on '503 (see col. 3, line 54-col. 4, line 3). Since there is no a second function mentioned, any function that enables the request of a subscriber data, as did in the Chavez, can be called a function. Furthermore, since there is no mentioning of a second network, a single network can satisfy the claimed feature.

As per claim 18: the communication system wherein the first function requests subscriber data from the first network node in response to the reception of the call terminating at the subscriber reads on '503 (see col. 3, line 41-col. 4, line 3).

As per claim 19: the communication system wherein:

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the first network node transmits at least the subscriber data associated with the terminating call to the first function in response to the changes in the subscriber data reads on 503 (see col. 4, lines 53-57).

the first function stores at least the subscriber data associated with the terminating call and update them in response to the subscriber data received from the first network node reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-42).

As per claim 20: the communication system further comprising at least one unit of user equipment for transmitting at least one service content associated with the call terminating at the subscriber to the first function for receiving and storing the service content and wherein the first function comprises an execution environment for performing the received and stored service content reads on '503 (see col. 4, lines 53-57). When the references are combined as shown above, the call control function of the APA will comprise an execution environment for performing the reception and storing of the service content.

As per claim 21: the communication system further comprising:

at least one unit of user equipment for transmitting at least one pointer to the service content associated with the call terminating at the subscriber to the first function for receiving and storing the pointer reads on '503 (see col. 1, line 61-col. 2, line 35).

at least one execution environment for performing the service content reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). The call state control function of the APA is, the at least one execution environment for performing the service content.

memory means for maintaining the service content in the system reads on '503
(see col. 1, line 61-col. 2, line 35).

As per claim 28: a network node which is configured to give routing information of a subscriber reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003), the network node further being configured to give the address of the first function which triggers services of subscribers if the triggering conditions are fulfilled, as a routing address for the subscriber reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). The HSS is the network node and the trigger triggers by the call state control, obviously based on some sort of condition/s. But, the APA does not explicitly teach about recognizing whether the subscriber has performed un-registration and triggering services for subscribers that are not registered in the network and routing the address when the subscriber is not registered in the network , as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Chavez teaches about a subscriber activated wireless telephone call rerouting system that enables the subscriber to reroute incoming calls to an alternate destination which is off the wireless network (see entire document, particularly, abstract; col. 2, lines 9-50), wherein the routing address is provided by a network node (see col. 3, line 41-col. 4, line 3; col. 4, line 41-col. 5, line 38). According to Chavez the call rerouting system is a customized routing table residing in a network and can remotely be activated/deactivated by the subscriber. The table includes a means for rerouting an incoming call to non-wireless network when the subscriber is off the cellular network. The feature, "off the wireless", network indicates a time of duration when the wireless subscriber is not able to request/receive service in the wireless network due to, for example, service an

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availability or being away from the home network (see col. 1, lines 10-19). In other words, the service in Chavez includes routing an incoming call to a terminating subscriber when the subscriber is off the wireless network or unregistered in the wireless network as indicated by the expressions being away or being unable to get service which is functionally same as being deregistered or unregistered, because the subscriber is recognized as being off the wireless network. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the APA with the teaching of Chavez for the advantage of rerouting an incoming call to a wireless subscriber terminal to an alternate destination off of the wireless network, when the wireless subscriber moves to an area that doesn't have wireless service, as taught by Chavez.

As per claim 29: the network wherein the network node is configured to maintain the address of the first function for each subscriber separately reads on 'APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). The first function is no different from a single function since there is no a second function mentioned.

As per claim 30: the network node wherein the network node is configured to set the address of the first function as a routing address of the subscriber in response to the subscriber performing the un-registration in the network reads on '503 (see col. 2, lines 9-42). The first function is no different from a single function since there is no a second function mentioned.

As per claim 31: the network node wherein the network node is configured to give the address of the first function as a routing address in response to the absence of the

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routing address of the subscriber. The first function is no different from a single function since there is no a second function mentioned. The stored address provided in the prior art of record is used in response to the absence of the subscriber's address.

Claims 2, 3, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Chavez and further in view of Lantto et al. (Lantto) (US 5,850,603). **Note:** for examination purposes, claims 12 and 13 are sequentially considered first.

As per claim 12: a method for providing a service in connection with a call terminating at a subscriber in a network, the method comprising at least the steps of:

maintaining in the network at least one first function which triggers, when triggering conditions are fulfilled, at least one first service associated with the terminating call for the subscriber reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003).

routing the call terminating at the subscriber to the first function when the subscriber reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). But, the APA does not explicitly teach about at least one first service associated with the terminating call for the subscriber, when the subscriber is not registered in the network, so as to provide a service connection for the subscriber by routing the call to a first function, as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Chavez teaches about a subscriber activated wireless telephone call rerouting system that enables the subscriber to reroute incoming calls to an alternate destination which is off network (see entire document, particularly, abstract; col. 2, lines 9-50). According to Chavez the call rerouting system is a customized routing table residing in a network and can remotely be

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activated/deactivated by the subscriber. The table includes a means for rerouting an incoming call to non-wireless network when the subscriber is off the cellular network. The feature, "off the wireless", network indicates a time of duration when the wireless subscriber is not able to request/receive service in the wireless network due to, for example, service an availability or being away from the home network a9see col. 1, lines 10-19). Being away or being unable to get service is functionally same as being deregistered or unregistered. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the APA with the teaching of Chavez for the advantage of rerouting an incoming call to a wireless subscriber terminal to an alternate destination off of the wireless network, when the wireless subscriber moves to an area that doesn't have wireless service, as taught by Chavez. But, the APA in view of Chavez does not explicitly teach about copying at least first service information of subscriber data of the database used by the first function during the un-registration of the subscriber, as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Lantto teaches about a system for adding or removing supplementary services to a home location register wherein a subscriber data is stored in a central database and a copy of it can be provided to each switching center that request for it (see col. 1, line 62-col. 2, line 7). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the above references for the advantage of identifying subscribers entering a new coverage area, as taught by Lantto.

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As per claim 13: a method for providing a service in connection with a call terminating at a subscriber in a network, the method comprising at least the steps of:

maintaining in the network at least one first function which triggers, when triggering conditions are fulfilled, at least one first service associated with the terminating call for the subscriber reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003).

routing the call terminating at the subscriber to the first function when the subscriber reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003).

receiving the call terminating at the subscriber in the first function reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). The call that is route or to be routed through the call state control function is a call received in the first function.

starting the triggering of services in the first function reads on APA (see page 1, paragraph 0003). But, the APA does not explicitly teach about at least one first service associated with the terminating call for the subscriber, when the subscriber is not registered in the network, so as to provide a service connection for the subscriber by routing the call to a first function, as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Chavez teaches about a subscriber activated wireless telephone call rerouting system that enables the subscriber to reroute incoming calls to an alternate destination which is off network (see entire document, particularly, abstract; col. 2, lines 9-50). According to Chavez the call rerouting system is a customized routing table residing in a network and can remotely be activated/deactivated by the subscriber. The table includes a means for rerouting an incoming call to non-wireless network when the subscriber is off the cellular network. The feature, "off the wireless", network indicates a

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time of duration when the wireless subscriber is not able to request/receive service in the wireless network due to, for example, service unavailability or being away from the home network (see col. 1, lines 10-19). Being away or being unable to get service is functionally same as being deregistered or unregistered. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the APA with the teaching of Chavez for the advantage of rerouting an incoming call to a wireless subscriber terminal to an alternate destination off of the wireless network, when the wireless subscriber moves to an area that doesn't have wireless service, as taught by Chavez. But, the APA in view of Chavez does not explicitly teach about transmitting subscriber's service information from a home subscriber server maintaining subscriber data of the subscriber to the first function, as claimed by applicant. However, in a related field of endeavor, Lantto teaches about a system for adding or removing supplementary services to a home location register wherein a subscriber data is stored in a central database/server and subscriber's service information is provided to each switching center that request for it (see col. 1, line 62-col. 2, line 7). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the above references for the advantage of identifying subscribers entering a new coverage area, as taught by Lantto.

As per claim 2: the feature of claim 2 is similar to the feature of claim 12. Hence, claim 2 is rejected on the same ground and motivation as claim 12.

As per claim 3: the feature of claim 3 is similar to the feature of claim 13. Hence, claim 3 is rejected on the same ground and motivation as claim 13.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As per claim 14: the prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the techniques of routing a call directed to a wireless subscriber, that is not registered in a wireless network, by using and checking a database for the subscriber's service information for consequently triggering the prescribed service, as recited in claim 14.

Claim 4 is would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

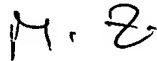
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Meless N Zewdu whose telephone number is (703) 306-5418. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am to 5:00 pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on (703) 308-5318. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Meless Zewdu



Examiner

23 September 2004.



WILLIAM TROST
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600